

# **Nisqually-Mashel Classification and Management Planning (CAMP) Project**

## **Public Comments**

### **Natural Resource Issues**

- Grow an old growth forest – start now.
- Heritage park designation.
- How will the horse and pedestrian trails be managed and maintained?
- Large areas of older growth area, “people use free”, i.e. no people.
- Day hike foot paths near “bird cliff”.
- River access: drop off access only, no parking on river.
- No ATVs! No motorized vehicles on trails; noisy, disruptive to environment.
- Day hike foot paths through older growth.
- As a new member of the Washington Native Plant Society, I would like to see native plants exclusively used for all landscaping environmental enhancement, etc.
- Find out what the 500 year stewardship model will look like.
- Limit mountain bikes to certain higher drier trails or mitigate wet issues through proper trail construction/structures, etc.
- I would like to have large areas as natural as possible and restoration done elsewhere, i.e. the eradication of invasive plant species.
- Develop habitat and bird population management plan.
- Work with master naturalist program to design native education.
- Protect riparian area.
- Manage for habitat. Fit development with the natural assets.
- Concern that migratory/movement corridor for elk, deer remain open - ? Leave habitat areas.
- Develop a native plant vegetative plan and a bio diversity study.

### **Cultural Resource Issues**

- Cemetery Indian Henry, Shaker Church, Massacre Site, Historic Tourist campground, Nisqually Tribal Camp Site (Leschi).
- Interpretive center showing a history of the area.
- Native American signage motif by river – Salmon emphasis.
- Protect and preserve only sensitive sites, provide educational and interpretive information, interactive displays.
- Indian burial grounds down river from Mashel River/Hwy? Needs to be protected in the side of cliff.
- Talk to the Nisqually Tribe soon.
- Interpret Indian Henry’s role in guiding travelers from sound to Mtn. and helping pioneers. Protect the cemetery.
- Will there be thorough interpretation of the 1855-56 Indian Wars and the Mashel massacre, and how will the archaeological and cultural values be developed?
- What about Indian Henry’s gravesite?
- How will Indian Henry’s grave site be protected?
- Include history of Indian and settlers info.
- Native burial grounds at end of Mashel Prairie Rd. What impact will the public have on this site?

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- Henry Smith Donation Land Claim into living history.

### **Long-Term Boundary Issues**

- Purchase Manke property and other properties within current boundary.
- Purchase Manke property.
- Acquire Manke Land
- Purchase Manke land – has been devalued to reduce price.
- Acquire Manke land for more contiguous access.
- Think you should get as much available land adjacent to current boundaries as possible, especially prairie area in the fork – Manke timberland.
- Work with Pack Forest for access across Mashel.
- Acquire South side of Nisqually River for greenbelt.
- Trail along river for fishermen not to cross our property to get to the river.
- Boundary – the bigger the better!
- As the surrounding area develops, need for a large natural maintained area increases. Also, access to wild/natural/logging areas is decreasing due to liability, etc. So where are we to go?
- If you build it, they will come!
- Acquire remaining private property either through direct purchase or working with the Nisqually Tribe and Nisqually Land Trust.
- Connect with properties nearby: Land Trust, Wildlife, Pioneer Farm, Dept. of Nat. Res., Town of Eatonville, Smallwood Park.
- Develop multiuse (hiking, biking, horse) accessible trail through park and linked with City of Eatonville. Trail could parallel the Eatonville Highway; most of land owned by DNR; access to food and concessions.
- Connect trail opportunities on UW property, NLT, and DNR, etc.

### **Management Issues**

- Local partnerships
- A new park – No. You people can't even --- that should be the parks you got now. Put this on the back burner and don't even think about it again.
- Solid policing to minimize nefarious activities.
- Our main concern is keeping traffic away from residential area down Medical Springs. It was intentional that a buffer could be set up to serve this purpose.
- Impact of increased traffic on private roads. Good signage.
- Spread out user impact. More than one access to area.
- Administrative impact fees for surrounding houses – housing developments, i.e. Triangle, theft, drugs, fights, and associated traffic.
- Close gates at night.
- Will the assigned park personnel have residences on site?
- Build a management scheme that shares how State Parks fits in watershed.
- Is the state trying to work on a better way to ensure space in state parks without planning your life a year in advance?

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- Cost? ATV's! Entrance where? Transients – spending the night(s) at gates “camping out.” Garbage – this will hopefully be resolved some as greater presence of park.
- Too much vandalism and garbage happening now on site.
- Reinforce boundary of State Parks to discourage illegal activities. Resources are at risk.
- Fire protection? Forest fires spread to private property will be protected.

## **Facilities Issues**

- Who develops hike/mountain bike trails? There's a science to trail building and in many public lands, trails are maintained by volunteer/user groups. How does this work with the State Parks, i.e. Dash Point State Park Banner Forest County Park (Kitsap).
- More ports or access, more trailheads, some parts of access on the perimeter of the park will spread out the congestion and other issues.
- Replace bridge.
- How many roads and buildings? Which will involve land clearing. Would like to see very little land clearing.
- Pedestrian connection to Town of Eatonville.
- Incorporate Ohop Dairy Farm. Admin. Use reach from above.
- Stress access points – boat, fish, and so on.
- Tie paths to Pack Forest and other lands existing now.
- Build viewing to see landscape.
- Put RV camping in remote area – away from other users.
- Group camp/education facility for school kids – outdoor education week like they do at Fort Casey State Park.
- Boat launch only large enough for smaller crafts, i.e. canoe, white water rafts, smaller boats.
- Horse camping.
- Parking for horse trailers.
- Access to river for river rafting!
- Acquire Ohop Farm for administration or education interpretive center.
- Handicap access to boat launch.
- Center for youth residents and summer camp. Few and far between. Near trailhead or road.
- Restore bridge.
- Some “A” frame campsites for more \$\$ fees.
- Re-build bridges for non-motorized use only.
- I would like to see rental “yurts” available for overnight use. Yes!
- Minimal campgrounds, no RV camping.
- Campsites with water and electric as well as primitive site, vault/biodegradable type toilets.
- Boat launch access, esp. i.e. kayak put-in area with small parking.
- Keep state park as undeveloped or natural as possible.
- I would like facilities and potential activities (uses) that appeal to families.

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- Energy efficient – outhouses (See park on Cowlitz River), i.e. solar/composting toilets, showers, sewage disposal, solar heat and light, earth sheltered walls, sod roofs, a green park.
- Horse trailer parking, manure bin out of concrete road dividers.
- Charge fee for groups to use for events.
- Use as a model of a good park's facilities: Bud Allen Park near Cowlitz Falls Dam on Cowlitz River, developed by Centralia Power and Light, in T. 11N, R6E, Sec. 6.
- Create joint park/Eatonville region visitor center.
- Interpretive and education center for class room training.
- Keep developed areas as low-key and "rustic" as possible. Yurts! Very limited RV, if any.
- Cabins, yurts.
- A nice picnic/washroom facility would be a nice destination/rest stop for area road bike riders.
- Build a foot or horse bridge across Nisqually.
- Need adequate horse trailer parking.
- Horse camping area.
- Warning system for dam.
- Make park feel old, wood bridges, log structures, rustic architecture or parks buildings, no metal sheds, no chainlink fences.
- Independent mountain bike and equestrian trails.
- Drive in "family" camping in newer treed area with nearby day hikes/trails in clusters/pods < 20 sites.
- Bicycle trails, horse trails, Nisqually Tribe private use.
- Low impact development, LEED cert. buildings.
- Develop recreation areas of the park that can be used as staging areas for events, such as a trail running race or cyclocross bicycle, or mountain bike races (lg. open area with power and restrooms).
- Remote security cameras at access points and facilities.
- If a bridge is put across the Nisqually River, restrict it to foot and horse traffic. Lock out vehicles.
- I would like to see hiking and biking trails.
- Variety of accommodations; campsites, tent sites, RV sites, trailers, group picnic areas, group camping areas, full service restrooms with showers.
- Have a map of regional recreation opportunities in region.
- Bridge on Nisqually River, (no motorized access).
- Are they going to provide access off the Mt. Hwy down to the river at the Mashel River Bridge? – Tony Basket.
- Provide group camping areas, no "hardshell" camp units.
- Walking trails linking the park to Park Forest trails and Eatonville.
- Where will the access road be?
- Will the entire property be fenced?
- More cabins and yurts for people with disabilities.
- More horse trails.

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- Include a large number of equestrian trails with large parking areas for horse trailers to turn around, park and load and unload horses safely.
- Make trail wide enough for horses and bicyclers to yield for passage, generally 6' width with 12 – 15 ft. clearance. Horses do best in dirt or dirt mixed with small gravel such as 5/8 minus crushed, prefer not to have solid gravel and no pavement.
- Include a few yurts and cabins like Cape Disappointment State Park.
- Include Educational Center that includes a meeting room or reception area.
- Include camping sites for horses and horse trailers, providing full hookups, strong corrals, handy water, and a location to dispose of manure. Make roads wide enough to have two trailers going in opposite directions to pass each other safely. Parking area needs to allow room for the largest trailer to turn around. Clear low limbs and wires so trailers do not hit them. Room is more important than having the area "landscaped". Save on repairing landscaping by making sure there is enough room for trailers to move around.
- Include equestrian trails. The facilities at Capital Forest would be a good footprint.
- Encourage a new equestrian trail system in the park.
- Limit development along Nisqually River and Mashel River. Remove old bridge supports. Harden visitor use area.
- Equestrian Trails! Very limited in WA. Campsites with corrals with vehicle access.
- Group camping area for groups to hold events, i.e. mountain bike, running, equestrian events.
- Develop boat launch for river access.
- I would like to see some horse riding trails.
- Horse trails, fishing access to river
- Don't want ATV trails, motorcycles, or jeep clubs.
- Many level of trail, kid size, long distance, hook up
- Kids play areas, sports courts, boat launch, canoes
- No RV hookups
- Green Facility: Use solar energy and compost toilets; use earth sheltered walls and/or sod roofs – recycled materials, i.e. use the best possible "green design" to reduce energy use, to treat sewage to protect water quality and preserve "the nature."
- This area has been used for horse trails for a long time before the state acquired it. I'm interested in having multi-use trail system throughout the site with more trailer parking and turnarounds. We also wish to have these horse and other use trails tied together with Pack Forest trails and DNR lands to the east. I am the Back Country Horsemen Trail Maintenance Coordinator. We will help.
- Equestrian trails, adequate parking and turn-around for trucks with trailers.
- Unimproved trail area – riding through forest.
- Mountain biking trails.
- Avian viewing "blinds"
- Footbridge over river.
- Equestrian carriage trails
- Biking/hiking trails from the Town of Eatonville to the proposed park.
- A trail from Eatonville to the Park.
- Miles and miles of trails – user some restricted to foot/ADA.
- Hiking trails with varied terrain, mountain views, river, fields, forest.

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- Loop trails like those in Pt. Defiance Park in Tacoma are great for runs, walks, etc. Shorter distances for half day type trips, ½ - 8 miles. The size of the property doesn't quite qualify as backcountry.
- Hiker, bicycle, horse trails; ADA access to smaller trail system; one roundtrip trail around exterior of park property – multi-use.
- Dig a well for water. Water for horses – gravity fed.
- Horse camps, horse trails, separate access for different activities.
- Metal hitching rails for tying horses. Wood hitching posts rot and break.
- Horse trailer parking for long 18' trailer and pickups. Possible pull throughs.
- Replace big bridge for horse/hiker/bike use.
- Metal highline posts, 8' x 10' tall for tying horses overnight.
- Horse trails with water access. Trails to be 6' x 8' wide 12' high. So pack horses can negotiate.
- No ball fields.

## **Activity Issues**

- Open the Nisqually for year-round catch and release fishing, similar to the upper Yakima River.
- More trails, poker rides.
- No motorcycles, quads, keep park as free from motor noise as possible.
- Horse/equestrian camping and trails separate from others (motorcycles, especially).
- Mountain bike single-track trails; multi-use horse, hiker, and bikes.
- Cross country mountain bike trails
- Maybe an organized "free ride" park (i.e. Whistler, B.C.)
- Shared trails for Mtn bikers, hikers, equestrians, trail runners, dog walkers, etc.
- Will donate carriage rides for groomed carriage trails.
- Keep it pristine. Footbridge across river.
- Carts to boat launch
- Walk-in campsites for Llama/goat packing.
- Year-round retreat lodge
- No off road vehicles
- No horses/dogs.
- Build the park-internships with Pack Forest
- Set up yurts and water for volunteer campers/trail builders.
- Local enterprise: shuttle from Eatonville to Nisqually Delta.
- Water access off leash dog area. How to contain? i.e. Marymoor Park and Ft. Steilacoom Park.
- Mountain bike, trail running, events for a fee. Races, poker runs, festivals.
- I would like to see some of the trails surfaced in cobbles to provide an all-year, relatively maintenance free trail for pedestrians and bicycle riders.
- Create events at the park to draw visitors to park and town.
- Volunteer maintenance for trails/facilities
- No mechanized vehicles.

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- Make interpretive opportunities; tie to the whole watershed.
- Upon leaving the park, know more about the Northwest.
- Nisqually Watershed interpretive activities (natural history)
- Historical/Cultural Interpretation
- Backcountry Horsemen would like to participate in planning trail classifications and in the building of such. Would sign a memorandum of understanding.
- No offroad motorized vehicles.
- Coordinated recreation with other parks and recreation on Nisqually.
- Coordinated trails with other trail plans.
- No motorized vehicles on trails.
- Only non-motorized vehicles on horse trails.
- Provide access to commercial river tours.
- Where possible, please separate any motorized activities from the equestrian activities.
- Mountain bike access and more mountain bike trails.
- Hope that some areas can be left available for equestrians.
- There are many horse clubs that work with DNR and private land owners to maintain equestrian trails.
- The area needs more horse friendly areas. Rarely do we hear of a new area being planned for equestrian use.
- Support the equestrian trail; there are fewer and fewer places to ride.
- Plan for naturalist led walking tours/hikes.
- Self guided walking tour with tree and plant identification geology information.
- ORV's pay license fee. No fee on horse. Need to allow legitimate family interest in ORV's in state park.
- Responsible usage includes cleaning up after horses on trail.
- Small, non-motorized watercraft only.
- Don't advocate raucous or unmuffled vehicles being allowed.
- Separate ORV's from other users.
- Favor a wide variety of uses for the park, not just for equestrian use. Hiking, biking, play fields, protected river beaches are not abundant in this area.
- Motorized vehicles, bicycles and horses should be prohibited. Tread on land gently by foot only.
- Do not allow ATV's, they will destroy the entire landscape.
- Do not want a park with noisy motors, stinky horses and muddy trails destroyed by bikes.
- All horses on all trails unless boggy put in puncheon loop trails.
- No 4 x 4's except for trail work.
- Ways to make \$. Float trips, special events and historical day.

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### **Other Issues**

- No fees please
- History signs for information and educational purposes. School trips!
- No fees in park.
- Bridges with park ranger living and patrolling park.
- No homeless camping for extended time. Note problem in capital forest.
- Backcountry Horsemen Pierce Chapter, Nisqually Chapter want to help build trails.
- City of Eatonville – are they ready for this?
- Make Nisqually River “catch and release” only.
- Having property next to the park. I am concerned with loud noise from ATV’s or other loud motorized activities.
- Work cooperatively with Eatonville Chamber for signage at SR 7 and Eatonville Hwy.
- Keep this type of public feedback as the park begins to operate.
- Link park trails with regional trails, Interurban and cross country ski trails (Ashford Ridge). Call Evergreen Trails Jamie Young Gordon, Pierce Conservative District.
- Will this park be seasonal or open year-round and will security live there on this same scale?
- Blackberry picking allowed.
- Scotch broom and tansy control. How will this be handled? It is rampant on Mashel Prairie Rd. Will you use weed killer or what?
- Build national park quality trail facilities.
- Provide opportunities for commercial recreation equipment, introduction day Show and tell – horse camp.
- Interpret the river, the river, the river.
- As a resident along Ohop Valley Rd., I would like maps showing access to the park, route, traffic, south bound on 161 (Meridian) to connect to Highway 7 or more appropriate (larger) roads north of the Ohop valley.
- Hwy 7 – what can you do to prevent jugged up traffic?
- Develop a “minimum” impact plan for neighboring communities.
- Also, install lahar alarms if Rainier collapses into Nisqually River. Keep “solid” facilities above (elv.) of “100 year” flood levels.
- Water level alarm if dam dumps water into river.
- Use leave no trace education.
- Education and interpretation and non-structural intervention with nature (for kids to get “high” on challenging themselves..., i.e. fish, climb, get lost, canoe, ride horses, hike, i.e. have a chance to experience accomplishment.
- Contract for fee (small) based nature education for families – see Audubon’s programs.
- Warn public of inherent danger of river travel.
- Develop a local stewardship group to monitor health of park.
- Make rangers old school, friendly nature people, they roam.
- Will there be a traffic light at the confluence of the Eatonville Hwy. and Hwy. 17?
- Have you studied traffic impacts? Road impacts?
- Update Master Planning Map to 2006 for computer so we know what we are looking at.
- Does this mean a tax increase for private landowners?



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- No fees or (offer) volunteer time to trade